

COL JUSTIN D. HARPER

Colonel Justin D. Harper is a native Texan and Armor Officer commissioned from Texas A&M University in 2002. His first unit of assignment was 2-12 Cavalry Regiment at Fort Cavazos, Texas, where he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving as a Tank Platoon Leader and Task Force Scout Platoon Leader. COL Harper returned to Fort Cavazos for his next operational assignment with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. While with 3d ACR, he served as a Regimental Assistant S3 and Squadron Assistant S3. He deployed to Mosul, Iraq, and assumed command of K Troop, 3/3 ACR. Upon redeployment, COL Harper assumed command of HHT, 3/3 ACR where he concluded his service with the Regiment of Mounted Riflemen.

After Troop Command, COL Harper served as a Joint Chiefs of Staff Intern which included assignments to Georgetown University, Joint Staff J33 Joint Operations Division AFRICOM, and the Office of the Provost Marshal General. COL Harper was next assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he served as a maneuver planner with the 1st Infantry Division G5, a Battalion XO with 1-63 Armor Regiment, and the Brigade S3 for 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division. As a Brigade S3, he deployed in support of Operation Spartan Shield and subsequently became the Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General for Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve and III Armored Corps. COL Harper's next assignment following deployment was as an Observer, Coach, Trainer with the Mission Command Training Program at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

COL Harper next served as the Commander of 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment at Fort Stewart, Georgia. He oversaw the conversion of the unit from an infantry battalion to an armor combined arms battalion, and reflagged the unit to 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment. After command, COL Harper was assigned to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, where he served as a Task Force Senior Trainer for the Panther Team. His most recent assignment was the Joint Planning Support Element, Joint Enabling Capabilities Command in Norfolk, Virginia.

His decorations include Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Joint Staff Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Army Commendation Medal with V Device, Army Commendation Medal (5 OLC), Army Achievement Medal, Joint Staff Identification Badge, Army Staff Identification Badge, and Combat Action badge.

COL Harper received a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Texas A&M in 2002, a Master of Public Policy Management from Georgetown University in 2011, and a Master of Science in Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy from the Joint Advanced Warfighting School in 2021.

He is married to the former Jennifer DeYoung of League City, Texas. They have four children: Alexandra, Reagan, Madison, and Andrew.